

THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

XII—Odd Phases of Havana Life.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Havana, Jan. 22.—Havana is a modern city of the size of Washington. It has 200,000 inhabitants, and about one-third of them are negroes, exactly the same proportion as in the capital of the United States. The city is modern in the sense that nearly all of the advantages of the age of steam and electricity are obtainable, in the sense that the hotels are thoroughly cosmopolitan. Yet there are many things that are out of the ordinary and which are distinctively Cuban, although some of them have their origin in the United States government.

For instance, there is the money system. An American business man who has lived in Havana for nine years has learned to carry less than ten dollars in his pockets at all times. One is dedicated to American silver, another to American gold and paper, the third to Spanish silver, and one each to Spanish gold and French gold. Each one of the sixteen daily newspapers in Havana carries at its masthead the daily prices of money exchange. But the current market prices do not rule in all business transactions, so that great care must be exercised.

When the Americans first took hold of Cuban affairs in 1898 the unit of the monetary system was the Spanish peso of 100 centavos. At that time it was worth 80 cents in American money. That rate of exchange was then established, officially, and it remains in force so far as the government and the chartered public service corporations are concerned. As a matter of fact, the Spanish peso is now worth 84 to 85 cents. In ordinary commerce the exchange is at that figure. One may take an American dollar into any one of the scores of money changing shops, each displaying the sign "cambio de moneda," and get about \$1.15 in Spanish silver. But at the post-office or at the railway office or on the street, the Spanish dollar is worth only 80 cents. As Spanish silver is the money of the people, and is almost the only currency in use in daily transactions, and is the standard of prices in all mercantile establishments, the arbitrary exchange is a great hardship on the people. It opens the avenue for considerable speculation on the part of government employees. A stamp clerk at a branch post-office can easily make an extra hundred dollars in a week by selling stamps for Spanish money at 80 cents, and then, turning that money into American at 85, settling in American money from his own pocket. The wise man carries all sorts of change, and he makes the rates work for him. He has two sets of books, one for Spanish money and one for American. Checks must show what kind of money is on deposit to be drawn against. In the larger transactions Spanish and French gold are generally used. As the people have no other money but Spanish, the steam railroads and the street railways greatly enhance their profits by the double system of exchange. Some day Cuba certainly has a money reform of its own. Certainly one of the crying needs of the hour is a reform in the currency system.

The banking, like every other considerable business in the island, is in the hands of foreigners. The Spanish mercantile business and they likewise do most of the banking business. Canadian banks are much in evidence, and since the days of the war American banking capital is a prominent factor. The Cubans themselves have little to do with banking of the country, except as they have been taken into partnership by the Americans.

The clash of American notions and Cuban ideas sometimes leads to ridiculous situations. One of the newest and finest buildings in Havana is the Hotel Seville. Architecturally it is a replica of some famous Moorish palace. Practically it is designed to be the first really, truly American hotel in Cuba. Every convenience invented by Manhattan hostellers was installed here the hotel was opened for business. Even the rates were reminiscent of Broadway. The proprietors, a Spanish-Cuban firm which already owned several hotels in Havana, decided that they would complete the list of attractions by giving the hotel a Cuban atmosphere. Head waiters and several assistants were imported from continental Europe via New York. They had been long enough in Gotham to adopt the Anglo-Saxon mode whatever may have been the quality of their English.

These foreign head waiters began to do revolutionary things. They declared that waiters must not smoke in the dining-room while serving patrons. The Cuban waiters swore they would not give up their cigarettes, but they concluded to confine their smoking to the kitchen. Then the tyrannical head waiters ordered the whole staff to shave their mustaches. A Cuban reveres his mustache as an Arab reveres the beard of the Prophet. This was an outrage to which the hot blood of the Libros could not submit. Between a job and mustache there was but one possible choice—the job must go.

Whereupon the English-speaking guests of a dozen hotels found themselves face to face with the problem of ordering a Spanish breakfast from a Cuban waiter who knew not the significance of the words "ham and eggs." There was a waters strike. The waiters lost out, of course, and the raw strike breakers got the jobs. But the waiter in the Havana hotel may be seen to-day blowing the blue cigarette smoke through the ends of his curling mustache. It was a victory for Cuba Libre.

The institution of marriage has been greatly popularized by the Anglo-Saxon ideas of morality followed the Stars and Stripes into Cuba. The religion of Cuba is horrified at the frequency of divorces in the United States, but under Spanish rule it had made the marriage fees so high that only the rich could afford a wedding ceremony. The poor people mated and lived together without sanction of authority, civil or ecclesiastical. Since the rise of American influence a great change has been effected. The fees have been reduced, the ceremonies simplified, and marrying is now almost as easy as in the United States. Protestant missionaries have devoted much time to educating the people along this line. Catholic priests from the United States have revived many congregations of that faith and have instituted many excellent reforms in parochial administration.

The percentage of illegitimate children is therefore constantly decreasing. Yet the record is still astonishingly large. Havana has a peculiar institution in its founding asylum. On one of the main streets of the city, this institution challenges the attention of the visitor by its beauty and by the evident happiness of the children playing in its courtyard. Directly on the street and near the ground is a square iron door. Behind that door is a blind turnstile. A mother who wishes to abandon her child comes here by night. There is an electric push-button connecting with a bell. She places the baby inside the door on the revolving platform of the turnstile, she rings the bell. One of the nuns comes and turns the stile and takes the child. The nun does not see the mother, the mother does not see the nun. She has cast her burden of

responsibility of motherhood upon the shoulders of the mother church. That is the end of it. This institution is reckoned to be of such great benefit to mankind that Cubans can with difficulty believe that in the United States it is a crime for a mother to insure a good living for her baby by abandoning it. The stigma of illegitimacy does not rest upon the child in Latin countries, so that good families from all over the nation come to this institution to adopt children.

It would be equally just for a foreigner to judge American morals by what he sees at midnight on Broadway. The Cuban men have no notion of a certain code of honor which every American man pretends to respect, even if he does not obey it. Their transgressions are open and confessed. Yet the vast majority of Cuban men are stay-at-homes, whose sole recreation is found in company with their wives and children. Cuban women are schooled in a strict code and it is adhered to. American women of wide experience who have lived for years in Cuba declare that the Cuban women are among the best, the noblest, and the most unselfish of God's creatures.

Drunkness is one sin which may not be charged to the account of the Cuban. He drinks his one glass of rum and water, his one bottle of red wine, or his one bottle of beer, and that is the end of it. The hundreds of cafes welcome him to sit as long as he pleases over one glass. There is no scurrying waiter to insist upon another order. There is no bouncer. A Cuban may spend a whole day in the swiftest cafe in Havana over a 10-cent drink. The cafes do not insist upon selling alcohol.

At midnight, when Havana is wide awake and all alive, the cafes are crowded. But not all the people are drinking intoxicating beverages. Half of them, perhaps more than half, are taking coffee or chocolate. Chocolate is served in a dozen forms, and in any of them it is a revelation of deliciousness to the man who has known nothing but the thick brown American imitations. A thin Spanish chocolate, eaten by dipping long sweet cakes into the cup, and accompanied by a glass of milk, is a revelation of the glass a cake made of sugar and whites of eggs, is a midnight supper fit for the gods.

Perhaps the oddest thing in Havana is an American institution. A company of young Americans, mostly newspaper men, have formed a mess. They took a furnished house, hired servants, and live like princes. The odd thing is that the house is situated at the corner of Virtudes and Persefencia—Virtue and Perseverance—streets.

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To-morrow—The Republic of Cuba.

XIII. Story of the Intervention.

FROM WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

The installment plan seems an easy way by which to accumulate possessions, but it is bondage to all save the thick-skinned and very fortunate at that. It has its advantages, to be sure, but they are outweighed by disadvantages, unless one happens to belong to the "mollusc" class. What a heap that word expresses, and to think that we have only just taken it to characterize a special class of humanity.

I once met a young man—the trouble-some member of an aristocratic family across the water, as I learned later—who was singularly free from sensitiveness or sentiment of any description. When he was prosperous—and that was frequently, because he was neither lazy nor stupid—he lived as befit his birth, but when adversity rained everything on which he calmly sacrificed everything on which a pawnbroker would lend money. There would be gifts from family and friends, but they were turned into cash with no more regret than articles purchased a week back.

He used to have a home when he was prosperous, and a good deal of thought and time was spent upon the furnishings. Invariably they were purchased on the installment plan, the monthly payments being no more than fair rental for the use of the things, he said. He calmly parted with them when he could no longer meet the payments and went into cheap lodgings. To a person of his temperament the installment system was admirable.

I know sensitive, nervous women who feel the weight of an obligation to the fullest extent. They have no difficulty in producing the money, but they never forget that the future is pledged, so to speak. Such women ought to use the cash system and save themselves unnecessary burdens, but, like bargains, the offer of slow payment has an appeal. Sometimes so many of these obligations are assumed that the week's income is completely swallowed up.

Debt is a dreadful burden, and for that reason it should not be assumed by those who can afford comfortable living. Generally there is a cash profit in paying as you go, and that is a proposition which should appeal to thrifty minds. The poor have to buy on time if they aim at anything higher than mere existence, and their frequent failure to meet payment is a gold mine to their creditors. Furniture is sometimes paid for two or three times in its frequent trips to temporary homes.

If one must or will buy on such terms it is folly to worry over any part of the transaction. Anxiety is a robber against whom we do not even struggle generally. We are ready to fight for our money or our trinkets, but we feebly submit to the plighting of peace of mind and wholesome enjoyment in living. Worry would kill a cat if any one of the cat tribe would submit to it. I wonder why we do not follow the sensible ideas of animals and seek the sun when it shines, and strive for the sun when it shines, and continue to eat after our appetite is satisfied or when we have no appetite at all. We voluntarily take shady corners and hard resting places. BETTY BRADEN.

Always the Same
Tharp's
Berkeley Rye
512 F Street N.W. Phone Main 1141.
Special Private Delivery.

INHERITS FORTUNE.

Employee of Baltimore and Ohio Shops Will Get \$40,000.

Special to The Washington Herald.
Cumberland, Md., Jan. 24.—J. H. Dellinger, of this city, has been advised by the executor of the estate of his uncle, Joseph Wilson, who died a month ago, that he will inherit his relative's property, valued at \$40,000.

Dellinger has made arrangements to go to Chicago to receive his share of the estate. He is an employee of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad steel car repairing department here, and is unmarried. Two sisters reside near Baltimore, and two sisters and a brother live in Cumberland. Dellinger says, despite the fortune, he will continue at his trade.

MRS. YOUNG STILL HYSTERICAL

Woman Who Helped Negress Under Care of Physician.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 24.—Mrs. Aubrey Young, who last night, hampered by evening clothes climbed a six-foot fence in an effort to extinguish the flames enveloping the body of Mary Jones, a negress, and who went into hysterics after the accomplishment of her work, is still hysterical and under the care of physicians.

There is no apprehension that the consequences to Mrs. Young will be serious unless, as is feared, she may have been injured in her unusual effort to climb over the high fence or later in her grapple with the frantic and burning negress.

Mary Jones, the victim, is still lying between life and death, with no possible hope of recovery.

TOBACCO RECEIPTS HEAVIER.

Lynchburg Market Shows Greater Activity, with Prices Steady.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Lynchburg, Va., Jan. 24.—The receipts of tobacco on the Lynchburg market during the past week were considerably heavier than the preceding week, and the proportion of the better grades was somewhat larger than for several weeks past. The quality and color were very good, but a large portion was off in size, and the lower grades sold off in condition as well as color.

The trade was quite active, and the prices ruled about as for several weeks, and these are expected to rule unless the planters should cause a glut by rushing too much tobacco on the market.

The report of the sales for the two weeks ended Friday, as reported by John L. Oglesby, of Lynch's warehouse, is as follows:

Sold week ended January 13, 384,000 pounds; sold week ended January 22, 1,623,200 pounds. Increase for week ending January 22, 1,239,200 pounds. Sold week ended January 1, 1,908, to January 22, 11,283,900 pounds. Sold week ended January 1, 1,907, to January 22, 1908, 4,521,500 pounds. Increase for 1908, 1,539,900 pounds.

CARDINAL AT ANNAPOLIS.

Confirms Big Class and Preaches on Fellowship Among Men.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 24.—Before a congregation that taxed the capacity of the historic edifice, Cardinal Gibbons today administered the rite of confirmation to a class of 115 in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, and also preached an eloquent sermon to those confirmed.

The cardinal preached from the subject, "Christianity and the fellowship among men." He began his discourse by saying that there is no attribute so tender as compassion and sympathy.

"Let us remember," he said, "that Christianity is the religion of protection, not of profession. The nearer we come to Christ the nearer we come to perfection. In this world we are needed by each other, and no man can get along without his neighbor."

He then drew a comparison of fellowship in everyday life. Bearing upon this, he asked the question, "What would it profit the big financiers of the country (naming Rockefeller, Astor, and Morgan) if they had no man to grasp their hand or to enjoy the fellowship of friend or neighbor?"

The cardinal also referred to the great marine disaster in the Atlantic Ocean off Nantucket Saturday morning and the narrow escape of the hundreds of lives aboard the ill-fated steamship Republic. The rescue of the passengers, he pointed out, was due to an invention of modern science (wireless telegraphy), but, admitting the marvel of it all, he asked, "What good would have come were it not for the officers and men of the other steamships many miles distant, who, forgetting all else, rushed to the aid of the distressed vessel?"

SEEKING MORE CAPITAL.

Capitalists, Headed by Paul Morton, Inspecting the C. & O.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Bristol, Va., Jan. 24.—A party of capitalists headed by Paul Morton, former Secretary of the Navy, were here today in connection with a trip over the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railroad as the guests of President George L. Carter.

It is reported that the purpose of the visit at this time is an effort on the part of the Ryan-Reynolds-Cook syndicate to interest additional capital in the gigantic industrial project of the C. & O.

Among the party were Robert Fleming, a multi-millionaire banker of London; Mark W. Porter of New York; C. N. Blair and C. L. Deaver, of Bristol and New York; General Manager M. J. Caples, and others. They will spend Monday going over the picturesque Blue Ridge division of the C. & O.

RAISES OVER \$1,000 FOR ORPHANS.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Spencer, N. C., Jan. 24.—Rev. J. P. Rogers, who spent three days in Spencer this week in the interest of the orphans' home to be established by the Western North Carolina Conference at Winston-Salem, raised \$1,442 in the Southern Railway fund to be used in the erection of buildings for the orphans. This is the largest amount raised so far in any one city in North Carolina for that purpose.

ALLEGED GAMBLING RESORT RAIDED.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Lynchburg, Va., Jan. 24.—An alleged gambling resort was raided early this morning by the police. Lewis Oppelman is charged with being the proprietor. The case will be heard in the police court tomorrow.

WORKS A WEEK; IS KILLED.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Cumberland, Md., Jan. 24.—James Albert Wallace, aged twenty years, of Adelaide, Pa., who went to work last Monday for the Red Rock Fuel Company at Buckhannon, was killed yesterday by a fall of slate.

NEWS OF ALEXANDRIA

Big Masonic Bazaar Will Be Held February 1.

TO CONTINUE TWELVE DAYS

Woman Is Slightly Burned by Fire in Her Apartments—Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans to Meet—Interesting Lecture Delivered Before Railroad Men on Timely Subject.

WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU.

Alexandria, Va., Jan. 24.—Beginning to-morrow, the work of putting Armory Hall into shape for the big Masonic bazaar, which will begin on February 1 and conclude on February 12, will be completed, and when the doors are thrown open every detail will have been completed. Practically all of the big work of painting the scenes that will be represented has been completed. Deft hands will install these, and also place in position thousands of miniature electric lights, which will illuminate the hall. When this work shall have been completed the hall will be turned over to a committee of ladies, who will place in position the numerous articles which have been received, among them being many costly and pretty donations.

A fire occurred at 8:30 o'clock to-night in the apartments of Mrs. Lydia L. Spofford, on the second floor of the home of Prof. John S. Blackburn, 212 North Washington street. The overturning of a kerosene lamp is said to have been responsible for the blaze. Mrs. Spofford, in attempting to subdue the fire, had her hand painfully burned. Several articles of clothing in the room were burned, but the flames were extinguished with a chemical extinguisher before much damage had been done.

The funeral of Thomas Terrett, of Fairfax County, who died last Thursday, took place at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon from St. Paul's Chapel, Fairfax County. Rev. Dr. A. A. Wallis, of the Episcopal Theological Seminary, conducted the services. A large number of relatives and friends attended. Burial was made in Ivy Hill Cemetery. The pallbearers were Messrs. Hummer, Hunter, Powell, Head, Hale, and Auld.

A meeting of R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans, will be held at Lee Camp Hall at 7:30 o'clock to-morrow night, to receive a loving cup which will be presented the camp by the Richmond Howitzers. The cup will be presented by a committee of fifteen members of the Richmond Howitzers, and will be in appreciation of the hospitable manner in which they were treated during their brief stay in Alexandria last summer.

Members of the Sons of Veterans and the Ladies' Auxiliary are invited to be present.

"Thrill and roll" was the subject of an address this afternoon by Carl D. Countryman at the Young People's Society Building of the M. E. Church South. Among those present were a large number of railroad men. A solo was given by Dr. C. E. Outcalt. Mr. Countryman will deliver a lecture in the same building to-morrow night.

Services at the Methodist Protestant Church to-night were conducted by Rev. Dr. Sheridan, president of the Maryland Conference of the M. P. Church, who made his annual visit to the local church to-day. He also presided at the installation of the recently elected officers of the Christian Endeavor Society.

The funeral of Mrs. Charles R. Monroe will be held at 9:30 o'clock to-morrow morning from St. Mary's Catholic Church. The burial will be made in St. Mary's Cemetery.

An important business meeting of Alexandria Lodge of Elks will be held to-morrow night. Prior to the regular business meeting an initiation will be held.

At St. Mary's Catholic Church to-day Rev. H. J. Cutler, pastor, read the annual statement, which showed the finances of the church to be in a very healthful condition. The congregation was congratulated by the pastor on the good showing made during the year.

Mary E. infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Corbin, died this morning at her parents' home, 714 North Columbus street.

The body of the infant thrown from an electric train Saturday afternoon, near Arlington Junction was buried this afternoon in the cemetery at the almshouse. The authorities have not as yet found any clue to the woman who discarded the body.

P. J. Dempsey will to-morrow night deliver an illustrated lecture on Panama at the Second Presbyterian Church. The public is invited.

The condition of Capt. Al Fair, who has been ill for some time past, is reported to be critical to-night.

NEW COTTON MILL FOR SALISBURY.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Salisbury, N. C., Jan. 24.—A persistent rumor has gained circulation here that Salisbury is to have a new cotton mill under the management of E. W. Duke & Co., well-known mill men in Central North Carolina. It is said a party has selected a site for the new industry and steps have been taken to land the new enterprise for Salisbury.

BANKERS SELECT OLD POINT.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 24.—The executive committee of the Virginia Bankers' Association has decided to hold the annual convention of the organization at the Chamberlain Hotel, Old Point Comfort, on May 20, 21, and 22.

INDORSED BY MAYOR MONTGOMERY.

He Is Personally Acquainted with the Good Done by the McKanna Three-Day Liqueur Cure.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Mayor R. S. Montgomery, of Reidsville, N. C., where there is a McKanna Three Day Liqueur Cure Sanatorium, speaks of the work done there in the highest terms.

"Dr. J. J. McKanna has most successfully conducted in our city for the past three years a Sanatorium for the cure of the whiskey and morphine habits, and during this time some wonderful cures, and doing untold good throughout this and other States. Dr. McKanna is a most estimable gentleman, and together with his congenial attendants makes his Sanatorium a most home-like place, as well as a pleasant place to stay."

The above original letter is on file in Washington at Dr. McKanna's residence and business office, 1231 I street northwest, phone Main 584. There are McKanna Sanatoriums at Murphy's Hotel, Annex, Richmond, Va., and Reidsville, N. C.

NOW SUSPECT WADE.

Jury Investigates Assassination of Higginbotham.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Lynchburg, Va., Jan. 24.—After hearing many witnesses and viewing the body of Isaac Higginbotham, who was waylaid and shot Friday night on the James River Bridge, while returning home, after spending the evening with his sweetheart, the coroner's jury returned a verdict to-day that Higginbotham died from pistol wounds, believed to have been inflicted by Ernest Wade, brother of Higginbotham's sweetheart. Wade was arrested yesterday and is in jail.

The evidence showed that the cayenne pepper which was scattered about the scene going over this route Saturday morning of the murderer to prevent the use of bloodhounds, was not put there until the morning after the shooting. Wade was seen going over this route Saturday morning and he was identified by a grocery clerk as the man who bought pepper from him a quarter of an hour before he was seen making this trip.

Miss Mae Wade, Higginbotham's sweetheart, testified briefly before the jury. She was only asked as to whether Higginbotham spent the evening with her, to which she replied in the affirmative. She was found at the Higginbotham home when she was summoned to-day, and she was under a nervous strain when testifying. She is an intelligent girl, and is beloved by the residents of Madison Heights. She is almost prostrated by the tragedy, which cost her her lover and caused her brother to be charged with murder. She was to have been married March 16.

The murder occurred only a short distance from the police jurisdiction of the city, and the police are working hard on the case.

The defense will attempt an alibi, as it is claimed Wade was at home at the time Higginbotham was shot. The evidence thus far is only circumstantial against Wade.

CHAPMAN AGAINST SALOON.

Believed Meetings Prepared Richmond for Local Option Fight.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 24.—In closing a two weeks' evangelistic campaign to-night, Dr. Wilbur Chapman came out strong against the saloon. He declared the time has arrived for Virginia to vote out the saloon.

Although the evangelistic meetings were said to have no local option significance, some people here express the opinion that the utterances of Dr. Chapman may mean the opening of a local option campaign in Richmond. Thousands here attended the Chapman meetings, and the local optionists believe it now safe to put the question of saloon or no saloon before the people.

KISSED JUDGE'S HANDS.

Italians, Escaping Death Sentence, Show Gratitude to Court.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Buckhannon, W. Va., Jan. 24.—The jury in the case of Joe Ferris, the Italian, charged with the murder of W. F. Hogg, in Braxton County, the case having been removed to Upshur County, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree yesterday, with a recommendation of life imprisonment.

Ferris and his brother, who had been found guilty last week, are well to do, and conducted a commissary on the Coal and Coke Railroad.

Judge McWhorter sentenced both to life terms. The men did not understand the court's words, and when the interpreter explained they rushed upon the judge and kissed his hands and face to express their thankfulness in escaping the death sentence. The scene was most affecting.

MUCH LOOSE LEAF SOLD.

Central Virginia Counties Offer Quantity Sun-cured Crop.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 24.—Locally speaking, there has been decided activity in the leaf tobacco market during the past week. The local warehouses sold on the floors at least 75,000 pounds of loose leaf, composed almost entirely of the sun-cured stocks which came in by wagon from the counties of Goodland, Hanover, Caroline, King and Queen, King William, Fluvanna, Henrico, and Louisa. Considerable offerings of the air-cured stock came in from the counties south of the James.

The receipts of the heavy dark shipping goods were larger than usual, and some good sales were made in hoghead lots. All of these sales were by sample, and in the main were made privately.

Although the week showed more than usual activity in tobacco circles, the indications are that the new week ahead will show even better results. The season seems to be favorable, and the warehousemen expect larger receipts of the loose weed.

The reports from the interior markets of Virginia and North Carolina are all favorable, and the figures reported seem to indicate that the after Christmas lull is now over, and the week is bringing its real value on all the markets.

Seeking Vast Coal Lands.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Grafton, W. Va., Jan. 24.—Pittsburg capitalists are negotiating for the purchase of the Chess estate, comprising about 7,000 acres, in Monongalia County, and 5,000 acres in Preston County. The intended owners contemplate developing the vast tract, which extends over the Cheat Mountains in the eastern end of Monongalia County. It is covered with timber and underlaid with coal. It is understood that the consideration demanded by the Chess brothers is in the neighborhood of \$500,000.

Grafton Club Elects Officers.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Grafton, W. Va., Jan. 24.—The annual meeting of the Grafton Rod and Gun Club took place yesterday, resulting in the election of the following officers: President, H. Gaines; vice president, Dr. A. B. Warden; secretary and treasurer, W. B. Stuck; field captain, J. P. Leachman; J. H. Knapp and J. F. Leachman were elected delegates to the meeting of the Monongahela Valley Sportsmen's League in Fairmont in February.

X & W. Will Lay Heavy Rails.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Roanoke, Va., Jan. 24.—On February 1 the Norfolk and Western Railway will begin laying eighty-pound rails from Honaker to Tazewell, a distance of forty miles. This is made necessary as the large tie engines can be used on the Clinch Valley division for the heavy coal traffic. Iron bridges are replacing wooden trestles on the Blackford branch.

Stops Gambling in Weston.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Weston, W. Va., Jan. 24.—Prosecuting Attorney Charles P. Swint, backed by the county officials, has declared war against gambling and other resorts by giving them twenty-four hours' notice to close up. The order was obeyed, and every house of the kind was closed, and occupants and furniture removed.

SKANN-SONS & CO.
THE BUSY CORNER

The limit reached in clearance prices on
TAILORED SUITS AND COATS

Five days to inventory, and the final word in reduction is spoken to-day. It conveys a very forcible and convincing message of the savings possible in purchasing to-day. Those who propose purchasing a new suit or coat shortly cannot afford to let its message go unheeded.

We must dispose of these before inventory. The bulletin of reductions is as follows:

Choice of any \$50.00 to \$80.00 tailored suit at..... **\$35.00**
Choice of any caracul cloth, velour, velvet, or broadcloth coat, worth to \$40, at..... **\$19.75**
Choice of any tailored suit, worth to \$45.00, at..... **\$18.00**
Choice of entire stock of coats, worth to \$25.00, at these two prices..... **\$12.75 & \$7.75**

Sizes are naturally very much broken, but you will be sure to find your size in some style or other. Come early for best selection.

CHILD SCALDED TO DEATH.

Special to The Washington Herald.

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